

**(Washington, DC)** Today, Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar) responded to Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum's proposed immigration reform plan. The plan would have similar requirements as the controversial immigration law in Arizona.

"This is a divisive plan that only polarizes the state of Florida," said Hastings. "The Attorney General's proposal is a clear political stunt, which raises questions as to his true motivation for delving into the issues surrounding immigration."

"And why now?" asked Hastings. "Why add fat to the fire?"

"Our nation's immigration system is in desperate need of reform, but enacting patchwork policies that conflict with existing federal laws and could lead to profiling and discrimination of all Floridians is not the answer," said Hastings. "I am a proud cosponsor of comprehensive immigration reform legislation in the House and will continue to urge House leadership and our President to bring this to the forefront of our legislative agenda."

*Congressman Alcee L. Hastings is Vice Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, a senior member of the House Rules Committee, and Co-Chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission.*

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